



PREVENT POLICY



Version Number	Date	Purpose of Change	Classification	Sign Off
V4.1	22/10/2025	Merge of EPA and Awarding policy new content and formatting	Public	Kerry Ore

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1. SCOPE

1.1. Smart Awards recognises its duty under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (Section 26) to prevent individuals of all ages from being radicalised or drawn into terrorism.

1.2 This policy applies to all qualifications, apprenticeship assessments and related services delivered by Smart Awards.

1.3 It covers all centres, assessors, quality assurance staff, learners, apprentices, and others engaged in Smart Awards' qualifications and Apprenticeship assessments.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) holds overall accountability for ensuring compliance with the Prevent Duty.

2.2 The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is responsible for implementation, monitoring effectiveness, and maintaining the Prevent risk assessment and action plan.

2.3 Centres are responsible for embedding the Prevent Duty within their delivery and safeguarding frameworks, ensuring staff training, and maintaining local risk assessments.

2.4 All staff and contractors must complete Prevent training and remain vigilant for signs of radicalisation or extremism.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 Radicalisation: The process through which individuals come to support terrorism or extremist ideologies that oppose fundamental British values.

3.2 Extremism: Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

3.3 Extremism may include racism, religious intolerance, homophobia, misogyny, or political extremism.

4. PRINCIPLES

4.1 Smart Awards promotes British values through induction materials, communications, and curriculum content.

4.2 The organisation fosters a safe, respectful learning environment that challenges intolerance and extremism.

4.3 Critical thinking and digital literacy are developed to help learners recognise and question extremist narratives.

4.4 IT systems are secure with content filtering in place.

4.5 External speakers and materials are vetted, and vulnerable learners are supported through early intervention and signposting.

5. THE PREVENT DUTY IN PRACTICE

5.1 Smart Awards ensures all staff are trained to identify and respond to signs of radicalisation.

5.2 Centres must have safeguarding policies aligned with local safeguarding partners.

5.3 Risk assessments are reviewed annually or when contextual changes occur.

5.4 Internet use is monitored to reduce exposure to extremist content.

5.5 Indicators of Concern

- Discriminatory or extremist language
- Possession or promotion of extremist material
- Isolation, withdrawal, or significant behavioural change
- Expressing extremist views or attempting to influence others
- Association with known extremists

5.6 Where concerns arise, Smart Awards follows safeguarding procedures and may refer cases to the Police Prevent Team or Local Authority Safeguarding Partners.

6. PROCEDURE IN THE EVENT OF A DISCLOSURE OR CONCERN

6.1. All allegations or suspicions must be taken seriously. It is vitally important that any disclosure made in confidence is recorded factually as soon as possible; this is whether or not the matter is taken to another authority.

6.2. This procedure must be followed whenever an allegation or suspicions are made. The person reporting will be given a name of who to contact (Designated Safeguarding Lead), how to contact them (email, phone etc) and contact details. Confidentiality assured for the person reporting a concern. Everyone is told to report any concern or incident, however small. Reassurance that all will be dealt with sensitively and carefully.

- Allegation or suspicious reported
- Any concerns should be discussed with Smart Awards within 24 hours.
- Details logged on the risk register and reported to Smart Awards immediately.
- An accurate account shall be made as soon as possible of the nature of the allegation.
- All relevant details collated including:
 - Name, position and contact details of the person reporting the incident.
 - Name of child or vulnerable adult, contact details and date of birth.
 - Parent/ Guardian/ Carer contact details.
 - Date and time of what has occurred and the time the disclosure was made.
 - Details of the incident/ allegations/ suspicions.
- Smart Awards will consider any report, seeking legal advice where necessary, and will take action which may involve referral of the incident to the appropriate people or authorities (e.g. parents, police, DBS, social services) within 24 hours
- Review and consider any corrective or preventative action that maybe.
- Smart Awards will keep all sensitive information secure.

7. LEGISLATION, GUIDANCE AND ASSOCIATED POLICIES

7.1 This policy aligns with the following current legislation and guidance (as of October 2025):

- Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (Sections 26 & 29)
- Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales (2023 update)
- Revised CONTEST Strategy (2023)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2024)
- Education Act 2002 (Section 175)
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010

- Safeguarding Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Data Protection Policy

8. REVIEW OF THIS POLICY

8.1. This policy is reviewed and revised annually in response to feedback, changes in legislation and guidance from the regulators.

9. OFQUAL GENERAL CONDITIONS

9.1 A1.2 For these purposes, an act or omission may include in particular one which results in the awarding organisation –

- (a) being convicted of a criminal offence,
- (b) being held by a court or any professional, regulatory, or government body to have breached any provision of Competition Law, Equalities Law, or Data Protection Law,
- (c) being held by a court or any professional, regulatory, or government body to have breached a provision of any other legislation or any regulatory obligation to which it is subject, or

9.2 A4.1 An awarding organisation must take all reasonable steps to ensure that, in relation to each qualification which it makes available, it complies with any requirements of any relevant law.

9.3 A4.2 An awarding organisation must take all reasonable steps to prevent any action or omission from occurring which would have an Adverse Effect.

10. QUALIFICATIONS SCOTLAND ACCREDITATION PRINCIPLES

10.1 Principle 3 – Safeguarding Learners and Stakeholders - The awarding body must ensure that its qualifications, assessment arrangements, and quality assurance processes safeguard the interests of learners, employers, and other stakeholders.

10.2 Principle 5 – Risk Management and Learner Protection - The awarding body must identify, record, and manage risks to the integrity of its qualifications and take action to protect learners where risks are identified.